

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 /070 W
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FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9818
INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
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UNCLAS MUNICH 00620

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, CZ, GW
SUBJECT: SUDETEN GERMAN REFUGEES CLAIM PORTION OF CZECH
GOLD HELD IN U.S.

1. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE SUDETEN
GERMAN ASSOCIATION (LANDSMANNSCHAFT) HAS WRITTEN A LETTER
TO PRESIDENT CARTER DATED JANUARY 27 REQUESTING THAT THE
CZECHOSLOVAK GOLD WHICH WAS BROUGHT TO THE U.S. IN 1945
BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE SATISFACTION OF THE PROPERTY
CLAIMS OF EXILED SUDETEN GERMANS AS WELL AS THOSE CZECHS
AND SLOVAKS "WHO LIVE IN FREEDOM."

2. THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SUDETEN GERMAN ASSOCIATION,
WHICH WAS HELD IN MUNICH JANUARY 28 AND 29, UNANIMOUSLY
APPROVED A RESOLUTION ASSERTING THAT THE PROPERTY CLAIMS
OF EXILED SUDETEN GERMANS AGAINST THE CZECHOSLOVAK STATE
MUST BE REGARDED AS VALID. THE ASSOCIATION'S SPEAKER
(SPRECHER), DR. WALTER BECKER, MDB (CSU), SAID THAT THE
U.S. PRESENTLY HOLDS CZECHOSLOVAK GOLD IN THE AMOUNT OF
120 MILLION "GOLD DOLLARS," AND THAT THE PROPERTY WHICH
SUDETEN GERMANS WERE COMPELLED TO LEAVE BEHIND IN
CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS WORTH 130 BILLION D.M. AT CURRENT
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PRICES.

3. THE ASSEMBLY ALSO CALLED ON ALL SUDETEN GERMANS TO
SIGN A JOINT DECLARATION REASSERTING THEIR CLAIMS TO THE
PROPERTY THEY WERE COMPELLED TO LEAVE BEHIND IN CZECHO-
SLOVAKIA. THIS DECLARATION IS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE
CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT.

4. COMMENT. PRESUME THAT THE SUDETEN GERMAN ASSOCIATION
IS REFERRING TO THE MONETARY GOLD LOOTED BY THE NAZIS AND
PRESENTLY HELD BY A TRIPARTITE U.S./UK/FRENCH COMMISSION.
BETTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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